

Devarim
“Words”

Torah: Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22
Haftarah: Isaiah 1:1-27
Brit Chadasha: John 15:1-11, Hebrews 3:7-4:11

All verses are from the Tree of Life Bible

TORAH:

Deuteronomy 1

Devarim: The Words that Moses Spoke

1 These are the words that Moses spoke to all Israel across the Jordan—in the wilderness, in the Arabah opposite Suph, between Paran and Tophel, Laban, Hazeroth and Di-Zahab.

2 It is eleven days’ journey from Horeb by way of Mount Seir to Kadesh-barnea.

3 Now Moses spoke to *Bnei-Yisrael*, according to all *Adonai* had commanded him for them—in the fortieth year, in the eleventh month, on the first day of the month,

4 after he had struck down Sihon king of the Amorites who lived in Heshbon, and Og king of the Bashan who lived in Ashtaroth and Edrei.

5 Across the Jordan in the land of Moab, Moses began to explain this *Torah* saying,

6 “*Adonai* our God spoke to us at Horeb saying: ‘You have stayed long enough at this mountain.

7 Turn, journey on, and enter the hill country of the Amorites and all their neighbors, in the Arabah, the hill country, the lowland, the Negev, and by the

seashore—the land of the Canaanites and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the Euphrates.

8 See, I have set the land before you. Enter and possess the land that *Adonai* swore to your fathers—to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob—to give to them and to their descendants after them.’

Bad Report and Poor Response

9 “I spoke to you at that time saying: ‘I am not able to bear the burden of you by myself.

10 *Adonai* your God has multiplied you—and here you are today, like the stars of the heavens in number.

11 “‘May *Adonai*, God of your fathers, increase you a thousand times as many as you are, and may He bless you just as He has promised you!

12 How can I bear your load and burden and bickering by myself?

13 Choose for yourselves wise and discerning men, well known to your tribes, and I will appoint them as your heads.’

14 “You answered me and said: ‘The thing you have said to do is good.’

15 So I took the heads of your tribes, men who were wise and well known, and appointed them as heads over you—leaders of thousands, leaders of hundreds, leaders of fifties, leaders of tens, and officials for your tribes.

16 “I commanded your judges at that time saying: ‘Hear cases between your brothers, and judge fairly between a man and his brother or the outsider with him.

17 You must not show partiality in judgment —you must hear the small and the great alike. Fear no man, for the judgment is God’s. The case that is too hard for you, you shall bring to me and I will hear it.’

18 “I commanded you at that time everything you should do.

19 “Then we journeyed from Horeb and went through all that great and terrible wilderness that you saw on the way to the hill country of the Amorites, as *Adonai* our God commanded us. Then we came to Kadesh-barnea.

20 I said to you: ‘You have come to the hill country of the Amorites, which *Adonai* our God is giving to us.

21 See, *Adonai* your God has set the land before you—go up, take possession, as *Adonai* God of your fathers has promised you. Do not be afraid or discouraged.’

22 “Then all of you came near to me and said: ‘Let’s send men ahead of us to explore the land for us and bring us back word about the way we should go up and the cities we will enter.’

23 “The idea seemed good to me, so I took twelve men from among you—one man for each tribe.

24 They turned and went up into the hill country, and they came to the Wadi Eshcol and spied it out.

25 They took in their hands some of the fruit of the land and brought it down to us. They also brought back word to us and said, ‘Good is the land that *Adonai* our God is giving to us.’

26 “Yet you would not go up, but rebelled against the command of *Adonai* your God.

27 In your tents you grumbled and said: ‘Because *Adonai* hates us, He has brought us out from the land of Egypt to hand us over to the Amorites, to destroy us!

28 Where are we going? Our brothers have discouraged our hearts saying, “The people are greater and taller than we are! The cities are great and fortified up to the heavens! Besides, we have even seen the children of Anakim there!”

29 “Then I said to you, ‘Don’t tremble or be afraid of them.

30 *Adonai* your God, who goes before you, He Himself will fight for you—just as He did for you in Egypt before your own eyes,

31 and in the wilderness, where you saw how *Adonai* your God carried you as a man carries his son, everywhere you went until you came to this place.'

32 Yet for all this you did not trust in *Adonai* your God—

33 the One who goes before you on the way to scout out a place for you to camp and to show you the way you should go, in fire by night and in the cloud by day.

34 "When *Adonai* heard the tone of your words, He was angry and swore an oath saying,

35 'Not one of these men of this evil generation will see the good land that I swore to give your fathers—

36 except Caleb the son of Jephunneh. He will see it—yet to him and his children I will give the land that he has walked on, because he has followed *Adonai* wholeheartedly.'

37 "*Adonai* was even angry with me on your account, saying, 'You will not enter there, either.

38 Joshua son of Nun, who stands before you, will enter there—encourage him, for he will enable Israel to inherit it.

39 "'Moreover, your little ones—whom you said would become plunder, and your children who today have no knowledge of good or evil—they will enter there. To them I will give it and they will possess it.

40 But as for you, turn around and journey into the wilderness by way of the Sea of Reeds.'

41 "Then you answered and said to me, 'We have sinned against *Adonai*. We will go up and fight, just as *Adonai* our God commanded us.' So each of you strapped on his weapons of war, figuring it was easy to go up to the hill country.

42 "But *Adonai* said to me, 'Tell them, "Do not go up and fight—for I am not with you, and you will be defeated by your enemies.'"

43 "So I told you, but you would not listen—you rebelled against the command of *Adonai* and presumptuously went up into the hill country.

44 The Amorites who lived in that hill country came out against you, and they chased you as bees do and scattered you from Seir to Hormah.

45 Then you returned and wept before *Adonai*, but *Adonai* did not listen to your voice or pay attention to you.

46 “So you stayed in Kadesh many days—like the days you had spent before.

Deuteronomy 2

Moses Recalls Wilderness Journey

1 “Then we turned and journeyed into the wilderness by the way to the Sea of Reeds, just as *Adonai* told me. We went around the hill country of Seir for many days.

2 “*Adonai* spoke to me saying,

3 ‘You have gone around this hill country long enough—turn to the north.

4 Command the people saying, “You are about to cross into the territory of your relatives, the sons of Esau, who dwell in Seir. They will be afraid of you, so be very careful.

5 Do not provoke them, for I will not give you any of their land—not even a footprint—because I have given the hill country of Seir to Esau as a possession.

6 You are to buy food from them for money so that you may eat, and you are also to buy water from them for money so that you may drink.

7 For *Adonai* your God has blessed you in all the work of your hand—He has known your wanderings through this great wilderness. These 40 years *Adonai* your God has been with you—you have lacked nothing.”

8 “So we went on past our relatives the sons of Esau who dwell in Seir, away from the way of the Arabah from Elath and Ezion-geber. We turned and passed by the way of the wilderness of Moab.

9 “*Adonai* said to me, ‘Do not harass Moab or engage them in battle. For I will not give you any of his land for a possession, because I have given Ar to the children of Lot for a possession.

10 (The Emim used to live there—a great and numerous people, as tall as the Anakim.

11 These people also are considered Rephaim, like the Anakim; but the Moabites call them Emim.

12 Now the Horites used to live in Seir, but the sons of Esau drove them out and destroyed them from before themselves and settled in their place—just as Israel did to the land of its possession that *Adonai* gave to them.)

13 Now rise up, and cross over the Wadi Zered.’ So we went over the Wadi Zered.

14 “The time that we traveled from Kadesh-barnea until we crossed over the Wadi Zered was 38 years—until all the generation of the men of war from within the camp came to an end, as *Adonai* had sworn to them.

15 Indeed, the hand of *Adonai* was against them, to destroy them from within the camp until they came to their end.

16 “Now when all the men of war had finished dying from among the people,

17 *Adonai* spoke to me saying,

18 ‘Today you are about to cross the border of Moab at Ar.

19 When you come opposite the sons of Ammon, do not harass or provoke them—for I will not give you any of the land of the sons of Ammon for a possession, because I have given it to the sons of Lot for a possession.

20 (That also is considered a land of Rephaim. Rephaim used to live there, but the Ammonites call them Zamzummim—

21 a great and numerous people, as tall as the Anakim. But *Adonai* destroyed them from before them, and the Ammonites dispossessed them and settled in their place.

22 It was just as *Adonai* did for the sons of Esau, who dwell in Seir, when He destroyed the Horites before them. They drove them out and settled in their place even to this day.

23 As for the Avvim who lived in villages as far as Gaza, the Caphtorim who came from Crete destroyed them and settled in their place.)

Defeat of Sihon and Og

24 “Rise up, journey on, and cross over the Wadi Arnon. See, I have handed over Sihon the Amorite, king of Heshbon, and his land—begin to possess it! Engage him in battle!

25 This very day I will begin to put the dread and fear of you upon the peoples everywhere under heaven. When they hear the report about you, they will tremble and twist in anguish because of you.’

26 “So I sent messengers from the wilderness of Kedemoth to Sihon king of Heshbon with words of *shalom* saying,

27 ‘Let me pass through your land—I will go only by way of the road. I will not turn to the right or to the left.

28 You will sell me food for money so that I may eat and give me water for money so that I may drink. Just let me pass through on foot—

29 as the sons of Esau dwelling in Seir and the Moabites in Ar did for me—until I cross over the Jordan into the land that *Adonai* our God is giving to us.’

30 But Sihon king of Heshbon would not let us pass by him, because *Adonai* your God stiffened his spirit and hardened his heart, in order to hand him over to you this very day.

31 “*Adonai* said to me, ‘See, I have begun to give Sihon and his land over to you—begin to take possession in order to take hold of his land.’

32 “Then Sihon came out against us—he and all his people—to battle at Jahaz.

33 *Adonai* our God gave him over to us, and we struck him down along with his sons and all his people.

34 We captured all his cities at that time, and utterly put under a ban of judgment every city—men, women and children. We left no survivor.

35 We took only the livestock as plunder for ourselves, as the spoils of the cities we captured.

36 From Aroer which is on the edge of the Wadi Arnon and the city by the wadi, all the way up to the Gilead, there was not a town too high for us. *Adonai* our God gave everything over to us.

37 Only you did not come near the land of the sons of Ammon—all along the Wadi Jabbok and the cities of the hill country and wherever *Adonai* our God had commanded.

Deuteronomy 3

1 “Next we turned and went up the way to the Bashan. King Og of the Bashan came out against us—he and all his people—for battle at Edrei.

2 But *Adonai* said to me, ‘Do not fear him, for I have handed him over and all his people and his land. You will do to him as you did to Sihon king of the Amorites, who lived in Heshbon.’

3 “So *Adonai* our God also handed over King Og of the Bashan and all his people, and we struck him down until no survivor was left.

4 We captured all his cities at that time—there was not a town that we did not take from them—sixty cities, the whole region of Argob, the kingdom of Og in the Bashan.

5 All these were cities fortified with high walls, gates and bars, in addition to a great many unwalled towns.

6 We utterly destroyed them, just as we did to Sihon king of Heshbon, utterly destroying every city—men, women and children.

7 But all the livestock and the spoils of the cities we took as plunder for ourselves.

8“ So at that time we took from the hand of the two kings of the Amorites the land across the Jordan, from the Wadi Arnon to Mount Hermon.

9(Sidonians call Hermon Sirion, and the Amorites call it Senir.)

10 We took all the cities of the plain and all the Gilead and all the Bashan, as far as Salcah and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in the Bashan.

11 (For only King Og of the Bashan survived from the remnant of the Rephaim. In fact, his bed was made of iron—is it not in Rabbah of the Ammonites? Nine cubits was its length and four cubits its width, according to the cubit of a man.)

Possession East of Jordan

12 “This land we took in possession at that time—from Aroer by the Wadi Arnon and half the hill country of the Gilead and its cities—I gave to the Reubenites and Gadites.

13 The rest of the Gilead and all of the Bashan, the kingdom of Og, I gave to the half-tribe of Manasseh—all the region of the Argob. (All the Bashan is called the land of Rephaim.

14Jair son of Manasseh took all the region of Argob, as far as the border of the Geshurites and the Maachathites. He called them—the Bashan—after his own name, Havvoth-jair’s Villages, as it is the case to this day.)

15 “To Machir I gave the Gilead.

16 To the Reubenite and Gadites I gave from the Gilead as far as the Wadi Arnon—the middle of the wadi as the border—and as far as Jabbok, the wadi that is the border of the sons of Ammon,

17 and the Arabah, with the Jordan as the border from *Kinneret* as far as the sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, under the slopes of Pisgah eastward.

18 “I commanded you at that time, saying, ‘*Adonai* your God has given you this land to possess it. Ready for battle, you will cross over ahead of your brothers *Bnei-Yisrael*—all the men of valor.

19 Only your wives and your little ones and your livestock (I know that you have much livestock) may stay in your cities that I have given you,

20 until *Adonai* gives rest to your brothers as He has for you, and they also possess the land that *Adonai* your God is giving them across the Jordan. Then you may return, each man to his possession that I have given you.'

21 "I commanded Joshua at that time saying, 'Your eyes have seen all that *Adonai* our God has done to these two kings. *Adonai* will do the same to all the kingdoms you are about to cross into.

22 You must not fear them, for it is *Adonai* your God who fights for you.'

HAFTARAH

Isaiah 1:1-27

1 The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah:

A Nation Sick With Sin

2 Listen! Heavens, and hear, earth, for *Adonai* has spoken: “Sons I have raised and brought up, but they have rebelled against Me.

3 The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its manger, but Israel does not know, My people do not understand.”

4 *Oy*, a sinful nation, a people weighed down with iniquity, offspring of evildoers, sons dealing corruptly! They have abandoned *Adonai*. They have despised Israel’s Holy One. They have turned backwards.

5 Where will you be struck again, as you stray away more and more? The whole head is sick, the whole heart faint.

6 From the foot to the head there is no soundness. Wounds, bruises and raw sores: not pressed, nor bandaged, nor softened with oil.

7 Your land is desolate; your cities are burned with fire; your fields, strangers devour it in your presence—a desolation, overthrown by strangers.

8 So the Daughter of Zion is left as a *sukkah* in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city.

9 Unless *Adonai-Tzva’ot* had left us a small remnant, we would have been as Sodom, we would have been as Gomorrah.

10 Hear the word of *Adonai*, you rulers of Sodom! Give ear to the *Torah* of our God, you people of Gomorrah!

Worthless Offerings

11 “For what is it to Me— the multitude of your sacrifices?” says *Adonai*. “I am full of burnt offerings of rams and fat of fed animals. I have no delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs or he-goats.

12 When you come to appear before Me, who has required this at your hand— trampling My courts?

13 Bring no more worthless offerings! Incense is an abomination to Me. New Moon and Shabbat, the calling of convocations —I cannot endure it— iniquity with solemn assembly.

14 Your New Moons and your Festivals My soul hates! They are a burden to Me. I am weary to bear them.

15 When you spread out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you. When you multiply prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood!”

Scarlet Sins as Snow

16 “Wash and make yourselves clean. Put away the evil of your deeds from before My eyes. Cease to do evil.

17 Learn to do good, seek justice, relieve the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.”

18 “Come now, let us reason together,” says *Adonai*. “Though your sins be like scarlet, they will be as white as snow. Though they be red like crimson, they will become like wool.

19 If you are willing and obey, you will eat the good of the land.

20 But if you refuse and rebel, you will be devoured with the sword.” For the mouth of *Adonai* has spoken.

Restore the Faithful City

21 How the Faithful City became a harlot! She once was full of justice, righteousness lodged in her— but now murderers!

22 Your silver has become dross, your wine diluted by water.

23 Your princes are rebellious and friends with thieves. Everyone loves a bribe and chases after rewards. They do not defend the orphan, nor does a widow's case come to them.

24 Therefore says the Lord *Adonai-Tzva'ot*, the Mighty One of Israel: "Oy ! I will get relief from My foes and avenge Myself on My enemies.

25 Then I will turn My hand on you, purge away your dross, and remove all your alloy.

26 I will restore your judges as at first, your counselors as at the start. Afterward you will be called City of Righteousness, Faithful City.

27 Zion will be redeemed with justice, her repentant with righteousness."

BRIT CHADASHA

John 15:1-11

Abiding in the Vine

1 “I am the true vine, and My Father is the gardener.

2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He trims so that it may bear more fruit.

3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.

4 Abide in Me, and I will abide in you. The branch cannot itself produce fruit, unless it abides on the vine. Likewise, you cannot produce fruit unless you abide in Me.

5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for apart from Me, you can do nothing.

6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away like a branch and is dried up. Such branches are picked up and thrown into the fire and burned.

7 “If you abide in Me and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you.

8 In this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples.”

9 “Just as the Father has loved Me, I also have loved you. Abide in My love!

10 If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.

11 These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and your joy may be full.

Hebrews 3:7-19

Listen and Obey, or Harden and Fall Away

7 Therefore, just as the *Ruach ha-Kodesh* says, “Today if you hear His voice,

8 do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness.

9 There your fathers put Me to the test, though they saw My works for forty years.

10 Therefore I was provoked by this generation, and I said, ‘They always go astray in their heart, and they have not known My ways.’

11 As I swore in my wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’”

12 Take care, brothers and sisters, that none of you has an evil heart of unbelief that falls away from the living God.

13 But encourage one another day by day—as long as it is called “Today”—so that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

14 For we have become partners of Messiah, if we hold our original conviction firm until the end.

15 As it is said, “Today if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

16 Now which ones heard and rebelled? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt with Moses?

17 And with whom was He provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness?

18 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest? Was it not to those who were disobedient?

19 So we see that they were not able to enter in because of lack of trust.

Hebrews 4:1-11

Make Every Effort to Enter God's Rest

1 Let us fear then! Though a promise of entering His rest is left open, some of you would seem to have fallen short.

2 For we also have had Good News proclaimed to us, just as they did. But the word they heard did not help them, because they were not unified with those who listened in faith.

3 For we who have trusted are entering into that rest. It is just as God has said, "So in My wrath I swore, 'They shall never enter My rest,'" even though His works were finished since the foundation of the world.

4 For somewhere He has spoken about the seventh day in this way: "And God rested on the seventh day from all His works,"

5 and again in this passage: "They shall never enter My rest."

6 So then it remains for some to enter into it; yet those who formerly had Good News proclaimed to them did not enter because of disobedience.

7 Again, God appoints a certain day—"Today"—saying through David after so long a time, just as it has been said before, "Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts."

8 For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on.

9 So there remains a *Shabbat* rest for the people of God.

10 For the one who has entered God's rest has also ceased from his own work, just as God did from His.

11 Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one may fall through the same pattern of disobedience.

